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\*Admitted only in Maryland  
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March 9, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents  
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**Art Unit 2186**

**Attn: Mail Stop Amendment**

Re: U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application  
Application No. 10/033,997; Filed: December 19, 2001  
For: **Expansion of RAID Subsystem Using Spare Space with Immediate  
Access to New Space**  
Inventors: FRANKLIN *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.5930000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. 1.111;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a);
3. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$450.00 to cover 2 month extension of time fee; and
4. Return postcard.

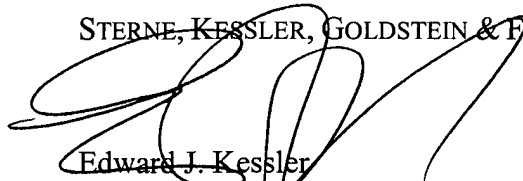
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
March 9, 2006  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Edward J. Kessler, is written over the firm name.

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EJK/YAT/jmh  
Enclosures

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